

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-2. (cancelled)

Claim 3. (withdrawn): A flap device as set forth in claim 1

wherein the torsionally stiff connection between the control element and the shaft portion comprises a groove-and-tongue connection.

Claim 4. (currently amended): An insert as set forth in claim 12,

wherein the torsionally stiff connection between the control element and the shaft portion comprises a press fit.

Claim 5. (withdrawn): A flap device as set forth in claim 1

wherein the shaft portion and the control element are formed in one piece.

Claim 6. (currently amended): An insert as set forth in claim 12,

wherein the shaft has a side which is flattened in the longitudinal direction of the shaft, and the control element bearing against said flattened side with a flat side and being fixable thereto in torsionally stiff relationship.

Claims 7-11. (cancelled)

Claim 12. (currently amended) An insert having a recess ~~to be positioned between the induction system with its individual induction ducts and the cylinder head of an internal combustion engine comprising:~~

a plurality of openings ~~connected to the induction ducts and~~ each fitted with a flap device[[s]] for influencing the flow cross-section in ~~the~~ said plurality of openings wherein each flap device comprises a control element arranged in ~~the respective~~ each opening and between each two neighbouring control elements ~~one~~ a shaft portion having a first and second end and of cranked configuration in a region between the first and second ends and wherein said recess is positioned between said first and second ends of said shaft, and means for mounting the shaft portions ~~rotably~~ rotatably with respect to the openings, and means operable to fix the control elements in torsionally stiff relationship to the first and second end of the shaft portion.

Claim 13. (currently amended) A plurality of flap devices arranged in a row for influencing the flow cross section in a plurality of medium carrying conduits comprising:

a plurality of control elements each arrangeable in [[a]] one of said conduits,

a plurality of shaft portions each having a first and second end and of a cranked configuration in a region between the first and second ends,

said row of flap devices having an axis of rotation and capable of being fitted with an insert having a recess wherein said recess is capable of extending beyond the axis of rotation of said flap device,

each of said shaft portions being positioned between each two control elements,  
means for mounting the shaft portions ~~rotably~~ rotatably with respect to the conduits, and  
means operable to fix first and second control elements in torsionally stiff relationship to the first and second ends of each of the shaft portions.